Inclusion of roads through NEC

1330. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state whether Government would consider the inclusion of Orang-Kopati-dolgaon Road through NEC under Eleventh Five Year Plan considering its importance to connect the Orang Wildlife Sanctuary for the interest of tourists and cover the missing link between NH-52 and Orang-Mazbad Rupa Road?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): The Eleventh Plan proposals and priorities of NEC are yet to be finalized . NEC is currently consulting the member States on the formulation of the Eleventh Plan. As such, no firm commitment can be given at his stage.

Projects for NER

1331. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the projects received from different State Governments of NER during 2005-06 and 2006-07 for consideration of the NEC;

(b) the projects which have been accepted by the NEC for consideration alongwith the amount sanctioned and the projects which have not been accepted by NEC alongwith reasons therefor;

(c) the projects which have been running in Tripura prior to 2005-06; and

(d) the reasons for unusual delay?

THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) The names of the projects received frotn different State Government of NER during 2005-06 and 2006-07 for consideration of the NEC are given in the Annexure *[See* Appendix 208, Annexure No.2]

(b) The projects which have been accepted by the NEC for consideration alongwith the amount sanctioned are from serial no. 1 to serial no. 195 and the projects which have not been accepted by NEC are from serial no. 196 to serial no. 582 of the Annexure mentioned above.

(c) and (d) The projects which have been running in Tripura prior to 2005-06 alongwith the reasons for unusual delay are from serial no. 583 to serial no. 628 of the Annexure mentioned above.

Reasons for delay include, *inter-alia,* non receipt of utilization certificates from the State Governments, non release of funds to the implementing agencies by the State Governments, along gestation period for certain projects, budgetary constraints etc.

Daily wastage of vegetables and fruits

1332. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of vegetables for fruits perishes daily in the country due to lack of proper processing facilities;

(b) if so, the quantity of vegetables and fruits wasted daily in the country and the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to process the vegetables/ fruits;

(c) whether Government propose to follow developed countries like the USA in developing processing industry in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and it not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (d) As per the report of M/s. Rabo India finance Private Limited, wastage of the agricultural foodstuffs is estimated to be about Rs. 58000 crore per annum occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting like inadequate post-harvest infrastructure, lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities etc. Government has formulated and implemented several Plan Schemes to provide financial assistance for establishment and modernization of food processing units, creation of infrastructure, support for R&D, human resource development besides other promotional measures to encourage development of food processing industries. Recently, in order to give boost to growth of FPI sector the Government has allowed under Income Tax Act, a deduction of 100% of profit for five years and 25% of profits for the next five years in case of new agro processing industries set up to process, preserve and package fruits and vegetables. Excise duty of 16% on dairy machinery